

Says resilient, innovative business leaders in southern Minnesota are the key to growing our economy

Winona, MN – Today, Rep. Walz visited OMNI Engineering Services, Inc. in Winona to highlight their entrepreneurial spirit and discuss tax credits for small businesses to create jobs and grow in the future.

“Our local small businesses power our economic engine and as we move forward with our economic recovery, we have to make sure they have the tools they need to succeed,” said Rep. Walz. “I am here today to get input from OMNI officials and to hear their ideas for revitalizing our economy and creating jobs. Some of the best ideas for how to move our economy forward are coming from right here in southern Minnesota.”

“OMNI is poised to expand research in and production of their cutting-edge technology but no business can grow unless financing is made available. I’m hopeful that the Small Business Jobs and Credit Act would help them get that financing directly from a local bank, making it possible to create more jobs here in southern Minnesota with a business recognized not just as a great entrepreneur, but as one of the best and most rewarding work places for employees,” concluded Walz.

“We appreciate Congressman Walz’s visit to OMNI today. We had a good discussion about what is needed to foster business growth and get the economy back on track,” said OMNI official Rick Wunsch. “Since OMNI started in 1991, we have relied on small business lending to grow and create jobs here in Winona. Tax incentives for research and development as well as the direct lending in the Small Business Jobs and Credit Act are measures we hope will benefit OMNI moving forward.”

Congressman Walz has supported initiatives that encourage small business growth by increasing access to capital, encouraging investment and job creation through tax credits, and increasing financial security through affordable loans. In June, the House passed **HR 5297, the Small Business Jobs and Credit Act**

, which the Senate is currently negotiating passage of. HR 5297 would establish a \$30 billion Small Business Lending Fund for the Treasury Department to invest in eligible community banks.

Participating banks would be charged lower fees by Treasury for increasing lending to small businesses, encouraging direct lending between local banks and small businesses.

OMNI Engineering Services, Inc. is a comprehensive provider of electronic product design solutions, test systems, research and development, and prototyping. Founded in 1991, OMNI began providing industrial electronic services to firms who were understaffed for their own electronic needs.

